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About Women in Washington

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BY MARY PAKENHAM

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ASHINGTON, May 7—The key to success, according to the six winners of this year's fifth annual Federal Woman's award, is diligence. And the this advice may seem a bit dull, the women are not.

Their specialties range from cloak-and-dagger code work to cancer research, and their salaries average \$20,000 a year. This is where diligence got them:

Ann Z. Caracristi, a native of Bronxville, N. Y., is senior intelligence research analyst and chief of office for the national security agency at Fort George G. Meade.

An English major at Russell Sage college, she said she "fell into" code work during World War II, after working in a newspaper's advertising department. She now heads a staff of 1,000 employes and works with computers as well as codes, directing multi-million-dollar programs of vital importance to national defense.

Naturally a bit vague on details of her army work, she did confess recently that when a magazine she is reading falls open to a cryptogram, she closes it.

LIZABETH B. DREWRY, a native Washingtonian with a PH.D. from Cornell, now directs the Franklin D. Roosevelt library at Hyde Park, N. Y., for the General Services administration. She was head of the history department at Penn Hall Junior college before joining the National Archives in 1936, and subsequently headed an 11-year drive to get all federal records under one retention and disposal system.

Derothy M. Gilford directs the mathematical sciences division of the office of naval research. A native of Ottumwa, Ia., she joined the Civil Aeronautics administration in 1948, to head its biometrics branch, after acquiring a string of degrees in mathematics and statistics. Now, married to a scientist of similar interests, she is the only woman head of an ONR division.

Carol C. Laise, born and educated in the Washington area, is deputy director of the state department's office of south Asian affairs and one of only four women foreign services officers of Class I rank. She studied political science, and began her federal career in 1940 with the civil service commission.

R. SARAH E. STEWART, born in Mexico while her father was there as a mining engineer; is head of the National Cancer institute's human virus studies section. Educated in the United States, she has a stack of degrees including one in bacteriology from the University of Chicago. She has won worldwide recognition for her unique discovery that certain virus strains can jump species and produce cancers in other than their natural hosts.

Penelope H. Thunberg, a native of Stoneham, Mass., with degrees in economics, is deputy chief of the office of research and reports of the international division of the central intelligence agency. Her work in planning economics research for the CIA requires "reading, ratiocination, and writing," she said, and her sources are not to be found in the catalogs of the Library of Congress.

... That's diligence.